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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SURABA 00096 070143Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
CU-04 /065 W
----------131050 070535Z /15
R 070120Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL SURABAYA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1192
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL MEDAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SURABAYA 0096

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINS, ID
SUBJECT: CAMPUS SITUATION IN YOGYAKARTA AND SURABAYA

REFS: JAKARTA 2854; SURABAYA 0089

1. INDONESIAN EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATED WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCY HERE IN SURABAYA SPENT THE WEEKEND IN YOGYAKARTA AND VISITED GADJAH MADA CAMPUS ON SATURDAY. HE SAID THAT THE SITUATION WAS CALM THERE ON SATURDAY WITH USUAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS PRESENT ON CAMPUS DURING MORNING HOURS. THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF SECURITY FORCES ON CAMPUS. SOURCE'S IMPRESSION IS THAT GENERAL SITUATION IN YOGYAKARTA IS NOW MORE RELAXED.

2. A LEADER OF THE INDIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN SURABAYA INFORMED CONOFF THAT FRIDAY MORNING A SMALL GATHERING OF STUDENTS OCCURRED ON THE DOWNTOWN BALIWERTI CAMPUS OF SURABAYA'S INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (ITS). SOME STUDENTS WERE CARRYING POSTERS PROCLAIMING THEIR SUPPORT OF STUDENT ACTIONS IN BANDUNG, SPECIFICALLY NAMING ITB STUDENT STRIKE. SHORTLY AFTER MEETING BEGAN, SECURITY FORCES ARRIVED IN VEHICLES AND TOOK UP POSITION OUTSIDE THE FRONT GATE. UPON OBSERVING TROOPS ASSEMBLING OUTSIDE CAMPUS, ITS STUDENTS DISPERSED QUIETLY. NO OVERT INTERACTION BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES
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APPEARS TO HAVE OCCURRED.

3. A FOREIGN ADVISER ASSISTING ITS FACULTY INFORMED US AT RECEPTION LAST NIGHT THAT TWO CAMPUSES OF ITS WERE THE SCENE OF "SIT-DOWN STRIKES" YESTERDAY. A NUMBER OF STUDENTS ARMED WITH POSTERS OCCUPIED OPEN AREAS OF TWO CAMPUSES--COKROMINOTO AND BALIWERTI-- SINGING SONGS AND CLAPPING HANDS. POSTERS WERE MAINLY DIRECTED AT

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ISSUES OF SUSPENSION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT AND DETENTION OF
STUDENT ACTIVISTS. OUR SOURCE SAID THAT OTHER POSTERS ADDRESSED
EVERY CONCEIVABLE COMPLAINT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. AT COKROMINOTO
CAMPUS, 10 OR 12 SECURITY FORCES APPEARED WITH BULL-HORN AND ASKED
THE STUDENTS TO DISPERSE AND THEY AGAIN DID SO. SOURCE DID NOT KNOW
HOW EVENTS DEVELOPED AT THE OTHER ITS CAMPUS. SOURCE SAYS ITS RECTOR
IS AT A LOSS AS TO WHAT TO DO ABOUT MODEST SCALE ACTIVITY NOW
INITIATED BY STUDENTS.
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